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Message Text

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71
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCS-03 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

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R 201200Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5900

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BANJUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 0888

EO 11652GDS
TAGS:V ZOV SG
SUBJ: CABINET CHANGES

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING CABINET CHANGES ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 16: MAGATTE LO NAMED MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH THE ASSEMBLIES RELINQUISHING POST OF MINISTER OF ARMED FORCES TO AMADOU CLEDOR SALL, FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE; ALIOUNE BADAR M'BENGUE, FORMERLY AMBASSADOR TO UK, NAMED MINISTER OF JUSTICE; ABDOURAHMANE DIA DROPPED FROM CABINET AND POSITION OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PROTECTION ENVIRONMENT ABOLISHED; ADAMA N'DIAYE MGCED FROM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, A POSITION WHICH ALSO ABOLISHED, TO SECRETARY OF STATE IN OFFICE PRIME MINISTER. DIA EXPECTED RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC POST. END SUMMARY.

2. LO LONG IN MAINSTREAM PARTY LEADERSHIP AND KEY FIGURE IN THIS SHUFFLE. AS PRINCIPLE POLITICAL
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SECRETARY OF UPS, IN ADDITION TO DUTIES AS MINISTER

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ARMED FORCES, HE HAS BEEN PRIME ARCHITECT OF RECENT
"RENOUVELLEMENT" OF UPS AND BEEN CALLED UPON FREQUENTLY
DURING PAST YEAR TO ARBITRATE REGIONAL POLITICAL
DISPUTES. WHILE TOO EARLY FOR DEFINITIVE JUDGMENTS
APPOINTMENT LO AS MINISTER OF STATE WITHOUT A MINISTRY
MAY BE DESIGNED FREE HIM ATTEND EXCLUSIVELY TO PARTY
AFFAIRS. AS ALTERNATE EXPLANATION NOW CIRCULATING, THERE
ARE RUMORS TOO MANY OFFICERS FROM DIOURBEL AREA HAVE
BEEN RECEIVING PROMOTIONS UNDER LO'S TENURE, CAUSING SOME
DISAFFECTION CHIEF OF STAFF IDRISSA FALL AND OTHER MILITARY.
SINCE DIOURBEL REGION IS STRONGHOLD MOURIDE BROTHERHOOD
OPPOSITION SENGOR, IT POSSIBLE LATTER NOT ANXIOUS INCREASE
PROPORTION IN MILITARY FROM THAT REGION.

3. ALTHOUGH SALL BURIED IN POLITICALLY UNIMPORTANT JUSTICE
MINISTRY FOR LAST FIVE YEARS HE REPORTEDLY DID EFFECTIVE
WORK THERE AND REWARDED IN DECEMBER 1972 BY PROMOTION TO ONE

OF POLITICAL SECRETARY SLOTS IN UPS POLITICAL BUREAU. HE IS
A FORMER GOVERNOR OF SINE-SALOUM AND CAP VERT PROVINCE AS
WELL AS FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR.

4. ACTIVE IN UPS SINCE 1948, ALIOUNE BADARA M'BENGUE HELD
SEVERAL MINISTRIES IN PERIOD 1957 TO 1968 INCLUDING SERVICE
LAST FIVE YEARS AS MINISTER JUSTICE. DURING CAREER HE PICKED
UP NAME OF "MINSTRE 10 PERCENT" PRESUMALBY FOR HIS MACHINATIONS AS
MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS. HE NONETHELESS CLOSE PRESIDENT
SENGHOR AT TIME AND ONLY PASTURED OUT TO LONDON
SEVERAL YEARS AFTER HIS REPUTEDLY IMPROPER ACTIVITIES.
REASON FOR HIS RETURN TO CABINET NOW UNCLEAR.

5. ADAMA N'DIAYE IS HIGH LEVEL, UNAGGRESSIVE LABOR
LEADER WHOSE PRESENCE IN CABINET OF LITTLE PRACTICAL
IMPORTANCE OTHER HJAN MAINTAIN FICTION OF LABOR
PARTICIPATION IN GOVT. DIA ALSO UNIMPORTANT
POLITICAL FACTOR.

6. IN ADDITION PERSONNEL CHANGES LATEST MINISTERIAL
REORGANIZATION ALSO INVOLVES MANY CHANGES IN FUNCTIONS
ECONOMIC MINISTRIES FOR PURPOSE OF IMPROVING EFFICIENCY
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OF GOVT. MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE CENTRALIZATION
ALL FACETS OF WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT EXCEPT URBAN
SANITATION IN MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT WHOSE
MIN, ADRIEN SENGHOR, HAS CONTINUED IMPRESS AS TAKE-
CHARGE TECHNOCRAT. GOS HOPES THIS MOVE WILL
IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS ITS EFFORTS TO COMBAT DROUGHT.
AGGREY

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